

and honor the important contributions of the United States Armed Forces and the critical civilian agency support that have enabled the Iraqi Security Forces to take the lead in conducting security and stability operations across the 18 provinces of Iraq;

Whereas the surge of United States military units into Iraq in 2007 and 2008 was instrumental in seizing the initiative from insurgent and terrorist elements and providing the space and time for the development of the Iraqi Security Forces and the establishment of governmental, political, and economic capacity at the local level;

Whereas the meticulous and persistent contributions of the United States military and civilian leadership under General David Petraeus and Ambassador Ryan Crocker contributed greatly to the successful build up of the Iraqi Security Forces and the development of stable governance in Iraq;

Whereas, in June 2006, the Iraqi Security Forces numbered approximately 152,000 and due to the subsequent deployment and employment of critical United States Military Transition Teams, Border Transition Teams, and Police Transition Teams and the extensive partnering of additional United States military units with Iraqi units, the total Iraqi Security Forces grew from approximately 559,000 in May 2008 to reach approximately 665,000 in August of 2010;

Whereas the ongoing security and stability provided by the partnership between the United States Armed Forces and Iraqi Security Forces has allowed United States Provincial Reconstruction Teams, embedded with United States military units and working alongside Iraqis at the local and provincial levels, to have facilitated thousands of reconstruction projects across Iraq that provide necessary access to capital and subject matter expertise for the repair of petroleum production facilities and desalination plants, expansion of electrical generation and telecommunications networks, building of schools, initiation of agricultural projects, spurring of Iraqi-owned businesses, and the attracting of foreign investment to improve the infrastructure of Iraq;

Whereas improved communication and coordination between the Government of Iraq in Baghdad, the Provincial Governors, and local political and tribal leaders has helped foster legitimate political alliances that, while still fragile, have exhibited the resiliency and potential for the resolution of conflicts through civil discourse, rather than violence;

Whereas the security situation in Iraq has improved markedly since 2007, and while it remains uneven and violent attacks by anti-government elements persist, the frequency of these attacks and the resources available to the insurgents and terrorists have declined to such an extent that the Government of Iraq remains capable and secure; and

Whereas these positive developments and trends are evidence of the success of the United States civil-military strategy in Iraq and are essential to the ongoing reduction of United States military forces from the current troop levels of approximately 64,000 to approximately 50,000 combat and combat support troops by September 1, 2010, further signaling a robust and ongoing commitment to advise and assist Iraqi Security Forces, while retaining the ability to respond in direct support of Iraqi Security Forces when necessary and to conduct counterterrorism operations against insurgent and terrorist elements: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the counterinsurgency and counterterrorism strategies of the United States initiated in 2006 and sustained from 2007 until the present day have successfully enabled the

Government of Iraq to reach major milestones in the critical areas of security, governance, and rule of law and have set the conditions for the responsible and gradual reduction of United States combat and combat support units from Iraq and the change of their mission to advising and assisting the Iraqi Security Forces;

(2) United States Forces-Iraq was instrumental in effecting the recruitment, training, retention, and employment of approximately 700,000 Iraqi Security Forces who have assumed and maintained the lead for security operations within the 18 provinces of Iraq; and

(3) United States commanders, their troops, their civilian partners in the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Commerce, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Defense, Federal contractors, and the Provincial Reconstruction Teams should be commended for their ingenuity, resourcefulness, courage, commitment, and sacrifice and their continued dedication and service to the United States.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 70—SUPPORTING THE OBSERVANCE OF “SPIRIT OF ‘45 DAY”

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BURR, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. INOUE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 70

Whereas on August 14, 1945, the people of the United States received word of the end of World War II;

Whereas on that day, people in the United States and around the world greeted the news of the Allies' noble victory with joyous celebration, humility, and spiritual reflection;

Whereas the victory marked the culmination of an unprecedented national effort that defeated the forces of aggression, brought freedom to subjugated nations, and ended the horrors of the Holocaust;

Whereas these historic accomplishments were achieved through the collective service and personal sacrifice of the people of the United States, both those who served in uniform and those who supported them on the home front;

Whereas more than 400,000 Americans gave their lives in service to their country during World War II;

Whereas August 14, 1945, marked not only the end of the war, but also the beginning of an unprecedented era of rebuilding in which the United States led the effort to restore the shattered nations of the Allies and their enemies alike and to create institutions to work towards a more peaceful global community;

Whereas the men and women of the World War II generation created an array of organizations and institutions during the postwar era which helped to strengthen American democracy by promoting civic engagement, volunteerism, and service to community and country;

Whereas the courage, dedication, self-sacrifice, and compassion of the World War II generation have inspired subsequent generations in the United States Armed Forces, including the men and women currently in service in Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world;

Whereas the entire World War II generation, military and civilian alike, has pro-

vided a model of unity and community that serves as a source of inspiration for current and future generations of Americans to come together to work for the continued betterment of the United States and the world; and

Whereas the second Sunday in August has been proposed as “Spirit of ‘45 Day” to commemorate the anniversary of the end of World War II on August 14, 1945: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring)*, That Congress supports the observance of “Spirit of ‘45 Day”.

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 71—RECOGNIZING THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL INTEREST IN HELPING TO PREVENT AND MITIGATE ACTS OF GENOCIDE AND OTHER MASS ATROCITIES AGAINST CIVILIANS, AND SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING EFFORTS TO DEVELOP A WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT APPROACH TO PREVENT AND MITIGATE SUCH ACTS

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 71

Whereas, in the aftermath of the Holocaust, the international community vowed “never again” to allow systematic killings on the basis of nationality, ethnicity, race, or religion;

Whereas a number of other genocides and mass atrocities have occurred, both prior to and since that time;

Whereas the United States Government has undertaken many initiatives to ensure that victims of genocide and mass atrocities are not forgotten, and as a leader in the international community, the United States has committed to work with international partners to prevent genocide and mass atrocities and to help protect civilian populations at risk of such;

Whereas the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in 1948, which declares genocide, whether committed in a time of peace or in a time of war, a crime under international law, and declares that the parties to the Convention will undertake to prevent and to punish that crime;

Whereas the United States was the first nation to sign the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, and the Senate voted to ratify the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide on February 11, 1986;

Whereas the Act entitled, “An Act to establish the United States Holocaust Memorial Council”, approved October 7, 1980 (Public Law 96-388) established the United States Holocaust Memorial Council to commemorate the Holocaust, establish a memorial museum to the victims, and develop a committee to stimulate worldwide action to prevent or stop future genocides;

Whereas the passage of the Genocide Convention Implementation Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-606), also known as the Proxmire Act, made genocide a crime under United States law;

Whereas, in response to lessons learned from Rwanda and Bosnia, President William J. Clinton established a genocide and mass atrocities early warning system by establishing an Atrocities Prevention Interagency